

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of the Claims

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A patient care equipment support system comprising:
a support structure extending between a floor and a ceiling of a hospital room, the support structure ~~has~~ having a service outlet for delivery of a medical gas, the support structure having an arm mount including an upper platform and a lower platform, the upper and lower platforms each being closer to the ceiling than to the floor;

an arm coupled to the support structure and supported in the hospital room for pivoting movement about a generally vertical axis, the arm having an interior region, a proximal end of the arm being situated between the upper and lower platforms,

a column coupled to the arm for movement therewith, the column configured to support patient care equipment, and

a brake located outside the interior region of the arm and movable between a braking position to impede the pivoting movement of the arm and a releasing position allowing pivoting movement of the arm, at least one service line that provides a service to the patient care equipment extending from outside the arm into the interior region of the arm passed the brake and extending within the interior region of the arm away from the brake toward an end of the arm.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the brake normally impedes the pivoting movement of the arm, and the brake allows the pivoting movement of the arm when the brake is deactivated in response to a user input.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the brake is deactivated by a user input device, and the user input device is mounted on the column.

4. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the brake is deactivated by a user input device, and the user input device is mounted remote from the column.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, comprising a pivot member coupled to the arm for rotation therewith about the axis, the pivot member being generally concentric with the axis.

6. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 5, wherein the brake includes a strap configured to be wrapped around a portion of the pivot member.

7. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 6, wherein the brake includes a linear actuator coupled to the strap, the linear actuator having a strap-tightening position where the arm is impeded from pivoting about the axis and a strap-releasing position where the arm is permitted to pivot about the axis.

8. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein the brake includes a brake pad engageable with the pivot member.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the brake includes a linear actuator coupled to the brake pad, the linear actuator having a brake pad-engaging position where the arm is impeded from pivoting about the axis and a brake pad-releasing position where the arm is permitted to pivot about the axis.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the brake includes a caliper arm carrying the brake pad, and the linear actuator is coupled to the caliper arm for moving the brake pad into and out of engagement with the pivot member in response to a user input.

11. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 5, wherein the brake includes a gear mounted generally concentrically to the pivot member for rotation therewith.

12. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 11, wherein the brake includes a caliper arm having a tooth for selectively engaging the gear mounted to the pivot member to prevent pivoting movement of the arm about the axis.

13. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 12, wherein the brake includes a linear actuator coupled to the caliper arm for moving the tooth into and out of engagement with the pivot member-mounted gear in response to a user input.

14. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the arm is a telescoping arm.

15. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the arm is a fixed-length arm.

16. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the arm extends outwardly from a headwall support structure.

17. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the arm is supported by a ceiling structure.

18. (Currently amended) A patient care equipment support system comprising:
a support structure extending between a floor and a ceiling of a hospital room, the support structure ~~has~~ having a service outlet for delivery of a medical gas, the support structure having an arm mount including an upper platform and a lower platform, the upper and lower platforms each being closer to the ceiling than to the floor;

an arm coupled to the support structure and supported in the hospital room for pivoting movement about a generally vertical axis, the arm having an interior region, a proximal end of the arm being situated between the upper and lower platforms,

a column coupled to the arm for movement therewith, the column configured to support patient care equipment, a pivot member coupled to the arm for rotation therewith about the axis, the pivot member being generally concentric with the axis,

a brake located outside the interior region of the arm and movable between a braking position engaging the pivot member to impede the pivoting movement of the arm and a

releasing position allowing pivoting movement of the arm, at least one service line that provides a service to the patient care equipment extending from outside the arm into the interior region of the arm passed the brake and extending within the interior region of the arm away from the brake toward an end of the arm, and

an actuator coupled to the brake to move the brake between the braking and releasing positions in response to an input from a user.

19. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 18, wherein the brake includes a strap configured to be wrapped around a portion of the pivot member and a linear actuator coupled to the strap, the linear actuator having a strap-tightening position where the arm is impeded from pivoting about the axis and a strap-releasing position where the arm is permitted to pivot about the axis.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the brake includes a brake pad engageable with the pivot member, a caliper arm carrying the brake pad and a linear actuator coupled to the caliper arm for moving the brake pad into and out of engagement with the pivot member in response to a user input.

21. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 18, wherein the brake includes a gear mounted to the pivot member for rotation therewith, a caliper arm having a tooth and a linear actuator coupled to the caliper arm for moving the tooth into and out of engagement with the pivot member-mounted gear in response to a user input.